

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02

IO-10 SAM-01 /068 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1224

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: TIMES REPORTS US HOPES TO WIDEN SCOPE OF NATO

1. FRED EMERY UNDER WASHINGTON DATELINE MAY 18 WRITES IN TIMES TODAY THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S THEME FOR THE NATO SUMMIT MEETING WILL BE THE NEED FOR NATO GOVERNMENTS TO LOOK BEYOND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND COORDINATE THEIR APPROACHES ACROSS THE WIDEST POSSIBLE RANGE OF FOREIGN POLICY. WHILE THE SUMMIT IS SEEN IN WASHINGTON AS A PSYCHOLOGICAL RALLYING OF THE WEST, MORE IS NEEDED EMERY WRITES. PRESIDENT FORD IS REPORTEDLY PLANNING TO TRY GETTING EVERYONE TO BREAK OUT OF THE NATO CONFINES AND THE MIDDLE EAST IS MENTIONED AS AN AREA WHERE HE MIGHT SAY THE WEST MUST DO BETTER TOGETHER. ACCORDING TO EMERY, WASHINGTON IS ALSO THINKING ABOUT A CAUCUS OF NATO MEMBERS AT THE UNITED NATIONS. IT IS SUGGESTED, HE REPORTS, THAT NATO GOVERNMENTS OUGHT NOT IN THE US VIEW TO SHY AWAY FROM BEING SEEN TO BE ON THE SAME SIDE
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ON NON-NATO ISSUES. WHILE US RELATIONS WITH WESTERN

EUROPE ARE FELT IN WASHINGTON TO BE AS GOOD AS THEY HAVE EVERY BEEN, A RESUMPTION OF THE ATTEMPT, EMERY WARNS, MAY REVIVE THE OLD QUARRELS BUT THAT IS GOING TO BE RISKED. HE ADDS THAT AT THE SUMMIT BOTH PORTUGAL AND SPAIN ARE GOING TO BE CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS.

2. THUS FAR WE HAVE HAD ONLY ONE INQUIRY FROM THE FOREIGN OFFICE FOR OUR VIEWS OF EMERY'S REPORT. THIS SOURCE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT IF THE US WAS IN FACT PLANNING TO SEEK TO COORDINATE WESTERN POLICY ON NON-NATO ISSUES, THERE BE ADEQUATE CONSULTATION BEFORE ANY SUCH INITIATIVE WAS LAUNCHED. WE HAVE REPLIED TO THIS INQUIRY THAT WE ARE NOT AWARE OF INITIATIVES SUCH AS THOSE DESCRIBED IN THE EMERY STORY. ANY FURTHER GUIDANCE WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO PROVIDE WOULD BE HELPFUL.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, SUMMIT MEETINGS, MILITARY POLICIES, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON07534
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750175-0799
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750539/aaaabjkz.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TIMES REPORTS US HOPES TO WIDEN SCOPE OF NATO
TAGS: PFOR, UK, US, NATO, LONDON TIMES, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: STATE VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006